

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for driving a display panel with which the dark contrast can be improved is provided. Each of at least two successive sub-fields including a leading sub-field includes a selective write addressing step for setting the discharge cells to a lighted discharge cell mode by selectively causing a writing discharge in the discharge cells in accordance with the video signal. The sub-fields following at least two sub-fields include a selective erasure addressing step for setting the discharge cells to an unlighted discharge cell mode by selectively causing an erasing discharge in the discharge cells in accordance with the video signal and an emission sustain step for repeatedly causing a sustain discharge corresponding to a weighting of that sub-field only in the discharge cells that are in the lighted discharge cell mode. The last sub-field of each field includes a first erasing step for inducing a first erasing discharge between the column electrode and one of the row electrodes of the row electrode pair belonging to the discharge cells that have been set to the unlighted discharge cell mode in the selective erasure addressing step and a second erasing step for inducing a second erasing discharge between the row electrodes of the row electrode pair belonging to the discharge cells that have been set to the lighted discharge cell mode in the selective write addressing step, the first erasing step and the second erasing step being performed immediately after the emission sustain step.